SUPERINTENDENT'S NOVEMBER 2017 REPORT

COMMUNICATIONS TO BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

Parks Superintendent's Monthly Report Summary

It's transition time in parks. Section staff are leaf mulching, flail mowing managed prairies, aerating athletic fields, winterizing shelters, and preparing for winter activities.

Glenway and Monona golf courses closed for the season on October 30, in comparison to November 7 for 2016. Yahara Hills and Odana Hills will remain open as long as weather conditions allow (over 45 daily high and less than 50% chance of precipitation).

Conservation performed controlled burns at Prairie Ridge, Owen and Cherokee Marsh North. In October, we burned 35 acres at 3 parks. This is just the beginning for fall 2017, as we hope to burn another 20 acres before winter. In fall 2016, we burned 45 acres. Due to weather, we normally do less burning in the fall than in the spring. By comparison, we burned 113 acres in spring 2016, and 333 acres in spring 2017.

Attendance at Olbrich Botanical Gardens continues to increase with more than 7,000 additional visitors over last year in the month of September.

The tornado which blew through our area on October 7, took out or damaged beyond saving 30 street trees and affected neighborhoods of Carpenter-Ridgeway, Hawthorne and Reindahl Park.

Planning staff are hosting Public Input Meetings for a number of upcoming projects, some of which include: Olin Park boat launch, North Star expansion/Camar Park master plan and playground replacements at Reger, Acewood, Elmside Circle and Mayfair.

More than 220 people enjoyed a beautiful evening at Hoyt Park at Madison Parks Foundation's *Picnic In The Park* on October 28. Among the many preparation tasks for this very successful event, Parks staff removed 75 bales of leaves from the Hoyt parking lot.

The 2017 City-County Employees Combined Campaign wrapped up at the end of October raising over \$15K – nearly \$4,000 more than last year.

WRITTEN REPORT OF SUPERVISOR'S ACTIVITIES EAST PARKS – CRAIG KLINKE, SUPERVISOR.

It took a while to get here, but fall is finally upon us. Therefore, we have begun the process of preparing for winter in earnest. Cabs are being mounted onto the tractors. Blowers, brooms, and plows are being installed. We will soon start installing snow fence in areas that drift a lot. The shelter sides have been installed and the hockey boards at Olbrich will go up in the next week or so. Some of the other activities we've been working on include:

- Mowing and leaf mulching
- Aerating and overseeding
- Helping with the Parks hayride program
- Preparing part of Warner Island for prairie plantings
- Performing fall flail mowing operations
- Performing a final cleaning of restroom and shelter facilities
- Helping with fall tree planting
- Ash removal work
- Pruning back perianal beds

In November, we will continue to prepare for winter and work on park improvement projects. Fall is a great time of year and as the temperatures get colder it allows us to perform work that we can't do when the parks are busy. We look forward to the changing of the seasons.

CENTRAL PARKS & MALL CONCOURSE – CHAD HUGHES, SUPERVISOR Central Parks

The first half of October was like a second spring, keeping us busy mowing with above average temperatures and rain. The last half of October has reminded us that winter is not too far off. Our LMW's spent most of this month on their fall tree plantings throughout the city. In addition to mowing, our maintenance staff has been flail mowing a number of managed prairies and aerating athletic fields. All shelters that get winterized for the year have been shut down and the sides have gone up at Vilas shelter in anticipation of ice skating season. Hayrides have started up and will continue through the month of November. The last of our seasonals have left us and as always we appreciate all the hard work they do for us during the summer.

Looking forward into November we will be busy wrapping up any leaf mulching and final field restorations before snow flies. Picnic tables and garbage cans will be brought in for the season so we can paint and repair as necessary. Much of our time will be spent making sure our equipment is ready for snow and our snow routes have been trimmed back of any obstructions. Stakes will be installed at Vilas for the hockey boards and the rinks there and at Goodman will be flooded. Fantasy in Lights will set up in Olin in preparation of opening in mid-November. Our LMW's will spend time helping the parks arborists as well as grubbing ash stumps.

Mall Maintenance:

Freakfest weekend was a success again, with cleanup becoming a routine for the Mall Concourse Maintenance Crew. West Parks workers helped out both early mornings, and the area is back together, once again. The Downtown Halloween festivities the Wednesday before Freakfest included hay rides on the Capitol Square. Two UW home football games also kept the crew busy during the month of October.

The late October freeze put our landscaping jobs to a halt. However, we managed to plant more daffodil and tulip bulbs to welcome next spring when it comes around. Leaf cleanup continues, as we were able to try our new leaf sucker attachment that was purchased last spring, and it has worked remarkably well.

Looking ahead to November, the crew will get snow removal preparations underway, including taking a snow maintenance class provided by the Madison Metropolitan Sewage District to help minimize our salt usage. Events will continue, including the new "Shine On Madison" holiday lighting event—which Mall Maintenance will assist in the setup. Downtown Madison will definitely pick up people during the upcoming holiday season!

WEST PARKS & FOREST HILL CEMETERY – LAURA BAUER, SUPERVISOR Forest Hill Cemetery:

Forest Hill is currently knee-deep in leaves, literally. Even with the recent losses of some old oaks, we still have enough leaves that the situation calls for a baler, rather than the usual method of mulching the leaves and leaving them in place. Instead, we blow the leaves onto the roadways and turn them into bales with a regular hay baler. The bales are then left beside the roads, to be picked up by interested parties. Parks also uses quite a few bales internally, as crash barriers at the bottoms of sledding hills. Because this is such a huge job, and because it takes a number of people working together at the same time to bale efficiently, Forest Hill has retained the equivalent of 2.5 seasonals, has another Parks Maintenance Worker "on loan", and will have the help of one of our Parks Workers for a few weeks starting on November 5.

Cemetery staff again took the baling show on the road in preparation for Picnic in the Park this year, as they removed 75 bales of leaves from of the Hoyt parking lot. We expect that this service will be needed at Nakoma soon as well. Both these parks have a dense oak canopy, and more leaves than can be mulched in place or blown out of the way.

Forest Hill cemetery contributed an old family grave marker to display at Picnic in the Park. It is a huge marble cube with dates from the 1850's, and it was salvaged from a downtown construction site a few years ago. It seems that the family had replaced this marker with another for some reason, and the old one was just discarded. When contractor dug it up during excavation, they contacted us and we went to pick it up.

In regular cemetery business, there were seven full-size interments, five cremains burials, one entombment, two mausoleum inurnments and five lot sales in October.

Summit Maintenance:

The big story in West parks for October was the Picnic in the Park, held at Hoyt this year. We're happy to report that we were able to prioritize some work there, and that we were proud to be able to show the park off. We're also grateful for the help from Facilities Maintenance, the Parks Arborist crew, the Landscape Maintenance Workers, and Forestry. This assistance was crucial for getting the buildings into the best shape, for removing some large dead trees, and for trimming many others. The night of the event saw the first hard freeze of the season, but the shelter was outfitted with temporary sides and all the event tents had heaters. We also diverted some of the products of dead tree removals into firewood for the two large shelter fireplaces.

Leaf mulching is ongoing. Crews are checking their routes for long grass and leaves, and mowing/mulching as appropriate. This will continue until the leaves have all fallen and we're done, or until it snows.

Most of our Jacobsen gang mower units are scheduled for replacement in the next few years. Since large mowers have changed considerably, partly as a result of new emissions requirements, we've had the pleasure of trying out two demonstration units of current models from a couple of manufacturers, to see which mower operators prefer.

Autumn flail mowing is underway, and our Equipment Operator is catching up with the mowing of quite a few areas that didn't receive their scheduled mow last year due to equipment breakdowns.

In the coming month we will be continuing the mowing/mulching operation, setting up the hockey rink boards at Westmorland Park, setting the stakes for the boards at Elver, and working on equipment

CONSERVATION – PAUL QUINLAN, SUPERVISOR

In October, conservation staff cleared firebreaks and conducted three "growing season" controlled burns at Prairie Ridge, Owen and North Cherokee Marsh. These burns will be extremely effective in controlling shrubs and reed canary grass that were invading prairie areas. Thanks to West and Central parks for providing staff to assist us. We worked on replacing signs and clearing brush from the edges of ski trails at Elver and South Cherokee Marsh, and assembled new grooming equipment that was purchased this year. New trail segments were established at North Cherokee Marsh to provide access from the Cherokee Park neighborhood, through the southwest corner of the conservation park. Parks Construction began work on maintenance road improvements at North Cherokee.

On October 2, we held an informational meeting with the neighbors of Owen Park to discuss deer and turkey management in the park. Brandon Mann led the conservation park tour on October 18 at Owen for 25 participants. I recruited a neighbor at Prairie Ridge to volunteer for us. She will begin to remove buckthorn from a 3-acre management unit that we have not worked on before. The UW-ROTC service project at Olin-Turville on October 28 was a success, thanks to volunteers from the Friends of Olin-Turville and the many Parks employees who worked to gather tools and coordinate people and logistics behind the scenes. More than 60 students worked on removing invasive buckthorn and honeysuckle, controlling burdock, and picking up litter from these two parks.

OLBRICH BOTANICAL GARDENS – ROBERTA SLADKY

Visitor comment:

"Dear Olbrich Garden, It is so fun visiting the garden. It was filled with joy and love. You guys did a really good job keeping the place neat and clean. If we have another challenge, I'll go there first. Thank you, Gordon." Gordon visited Olbrich Botanical Gardens as part of the Oregon Middle School's 'Urban Challenge' held 10/12/2017. His elaborately illustrated thank-you card filled Olbrich's staff with joy and love!

September 2017 Numbers

OBG Attendance (counted from 9 – 4 only + event participants)	2017		2016	Previous 5 yrs avg
September 1 - 30	28,82	4	21,611	19,992
YTD September 30	265,9	98	234,178	
OBG City of Madison Major Revenue Categories (una	audited)	YTD 9	/30/17	YTD 9/30/16
Bolz Conservatory Admission YTD		\$67,02	21	\$63,549
Room Rentals YTD*	Rentals YTD*		53	\$101,220
Catering Percentage Revenue YTD**		\$21,05	52	\$20,689
TOTAL YTD		\$185,326		\$185,458

*accrued at time of booking - up to 21 months before the rental date, ** accrued on a monthly basis following each catered rental

November 2017 Public Events at Olbrich Botanical Gardens call 608-246-4550 for more information or visit <u>www.olbrich.org/events</u>

Bolz Conservatory Exhibit, November 4 – March 3, Maria Sibylla Merian: The Suriname Expedition 1699-1701, 10 am – 4 pm daily

Herb Fair – Sat, Nov 4, 9 am – 3 pm, organized by the Madison Herb Society

Cocktails in the Conservatory, Fri, Nov 17, 7 - 11 pm with DJ the Real Jaguar

Education Programs – November 2017 classes and programs 608/246-4550 for information/registration or visit http://www.olbrich.org/education/classes.cfm

'Ecology Explorer' School Programs are ongoing Tues, Wed, Thu, through Nov 9

Olbrich Book Club, Sun, Nov 5, 1:30-3:30 pm; Book: *My Double Life* by Frances Hamerstrom Garden Walks

Nighttime Walk in the Tropics, Wed, Nov 1, 6:30 - 7:30 pm,

Behind-the-Scenes Greenhouse Holiday Tour, Sat, Nov 11, 1 - 2:30 pm

Wellness at the Gardens

Gentle Kripalu Hatha Yoga, 7 Mondays, Nov 6 – Dec 18, 5:30 pm – 6:45 pm

Tai Chi Meditation, 6 Mondays, Oct 23 – Nov 27, 6 – 7 pm

Classes & Workshops for Adults

The Other Annuals, Thu, Nov 2, 6:30 – 8 pm Beginning Relief Printmaking, Sun, Nov 5, 10 am – 4 pm Felt Gift Bags for Giving & Re-Using, Thu, Nov 9, 6:30 – 8 pm 'On the Go' Weaving: Introduction to Pin Loom Weaving, Sat, Nov 11, 1 – 4 pm Herbs & Fermentation for Digestive Health, Tues, Nov 14, 6 – 8:30 pm Evergreen Holiday Wreath with Natural Materials Workshop, Thu, Nov 30, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Learn & Play Together

Toddler Story & Stroll: (ages 2 – 4 with an adult) Mysterious Animals with stories by Janell Cannon Verdi the Snake, Fri, Nov 3, 10 – 11 am Pinduli the Hyena, Fri, Nov 10, 10 – 11 am The Many Ways Animals Move, Saturday, Nov 11 Ages 5 – 8, 9 – 10 am Ages 9 – 11, 10:30 – 11:30 am

FORESTRY - MARLA EDDY

Forestry Section	Total Trees	Total Hours	
Cycle Pruning	0	0	
Pruned by Request	192	299	
Small Tree Pruning Cycle	114	40	
Tree Removal	128	417	
Ash Preemptive Removals	149	614	
Storm Work/Hangers		186	

No cycle pruning occurred on either side of the city. The west side did get some small tree pruning completed.

On October 7, a tornado did hit the far east side of the City. Neighborhoods affected: Carpenter-Ridgeway, Hawthorne and Reindahl Park. We lost 30 street trees due this weather event.

Fall planting began on October 23 and 906 new street trees will be planted throughout the City.

Forestry specialists worked on preparing tree planting routes which includes checking for underground utility conflicts, reviewing plans for private developments, scheduling tree replacements and preparing EAB preemptive removal work slips.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT – JANET SCHMIDT Planning and Development – January 2017

Bowman Field Baseball Backstop Netting Poles – South Status: Pending Construction

Joe Daniels Construction is anticipated to start construction in early November, with final completion before April 1, 2018, to avoid conflicts with current field reservations.

Forest Hill Cemetery – Near West

Status: Pending Construction

Improvements will include the irrigation system upgrades, storm water management improvements and reconstruction of the road system in the cemetery. Phase 1 contract has been awarded to Drax Inc. The contractor is planning to start work in spring 2018.

Garver Feed Mill – East Status: Design

Parks staff continues to work with the development team to resolve issues and work on obtaining final zoning approvals. City staff has contracted with SCS Engineers to provide environmental services including soil sampling and a material management plan for managing the contaminated soils on the site. Staff released a BPW contract to remove the stockpiled leaf and stump grinding material from the site on October 20th, with bids due November 3rd.

Tenney Park Shoreline – Near East

Status: Construction

Landscaping and invasive plant removal along the shoreline are continuing. Hundreds of shrubs, acres of native seed, tens of thousands of native wetland and savannah herbaceous plants, and over 150 new trees were planted in April, May and June of 2016. Invasive plant removals will continue through December 2017.

Breese Stevens Facility Plan – Isthmus/Central

Status: Planning

Isthmus Architecture completed the Breese Stevens Facility Plan in June. The second phase of Isthmus Architecture's contract started in late September and includes the design of a new concessions and restroom addition to the stadium. Isthmus Architecture and Parks staff met with City of Madison Landmarks Commission and Wisconsin Historical Society staff to discuss the proposed improvements. A formal submittal to the Landmarks Commission is anticipated to occur in early November.

Demetral Park Adult Fitness – East Status: Pending Construction

The installation of adult fitness equipment and associated site work is anticipated to begin in late October by Contractor Madison Commercial Landscapes Inc. A concrete slab base will be installed at the park adjacent to the recently-improved asphalt path and will include a total of 9 fitness stations including 2 fully accessible pieces that closely mimic the workout to be found in an indoor fitness gym.

Penn Park Improvements – South Status: Construction

The project was bid in two phases, one for the shelter and restroom portion of the project and a second contract for the site work and parking lot improvements. The first bid package for the renovation of the existing shelter and the new concession/restroom building is expected to be completed May of 2018. The associated site work for the parking lot improvements is also anticipated to completed May of 2018.

Emerald Ash Borer Mitigation – City Wide Status: On-going

Staff developed a GIS-based mapping database to inventory all ash trees removed and replaced in the park system and continues to coordinate with parks operations staff for the citywide replacement of ash trees.

Waldorf Park Preliminary Park Development – West Status: Complete

Grading and paving of the park has been completed. The construction of the playground at the park will be part of the 2017 – Group 2 contract and is anticipated to be completed in early November.

Goodman Ice Rink (Franklin Field) - Central/South

Status: Construction

The contractor has begun the lighting replacement at the ice rink. The work is expected to be completed in October or early November.

2018-2022 Park and Open Space Plan – City Wide Status: Ongoing

Staff has completed most of the data collection and engagement for the 2018-2022 Park and Open Space Plan (POSP) Update. Staff is currently working on developing the draft plan and using the Racial Justice and Social Equity Toolkit as a guide for analysis as part of the plan development.

Tenney Park (Island Playground) – Central/East

Status: Construction

Work on this site has begun and is anticipated to be completed by the end of November.

Brigham Park Playground – East Status: Construction

Work on this playground is almost complete, with final paving anticipated to be completed by the end of November.

Lake Edge Park Playground – East

Status: Construction

Work on this playground is almost complete, with final paving anticipated to be completed by the end of November.

McGinnis Park Playground – East

Status: Construction

Work on this site has begun and is anticipated to be completed by the end of November.

Zook Park Playground – West

Status: Construction

This project is currently under construction and is being completed by Parks Construction staff.

Country Grove Park Playground – West Status: Complete

Work to replace the existing playground began in late September and is anticipated be completed in late October.

Wexford Park Playground – West Status: Construction

Work to replace the existing playground began in late September and is anticipated be completed in late October.

2017 Parks Division Landscaping – City Wide Status: Construction / Maintenance

Work has been completed for the installation of trees and shrubs at various sites in the park system. Maintenance under the contract continues through December 1, 2018.

2017 Parks Division Rain Garden Management – City Wide Status: Construction / Maintenance

Work has been completed for the installation of raingardens at sites in the park system. Maintenance under the contract continues through December 1, 2018.

James Madison Park Master Plan and Shelter Design- Near East Status: Planning

Ken Saiki Design, Inc. has been tentatively awarded design contract for the James Madison Park Master Plan and Shelter Design for the amount of \$203,340. The contract was approved by the Board of Public Works on October 18, 2017 and will go to the Common Council for approval on October 31, 2017.

Vilas Park Fishing Pier- Near West

Status: Construction

Parks staff will be working with Building and Construction Trades Council of South Central Wisconsin to install an accessible fishing pier in Vilas Park on Lake Wingra. Building Trades Council will be responsible for refurbishing an existing City owned pier for use on the site. The concrete pier abutment will be installed in October of 2017 with final pier installation in spring 2018.

Park Paving 2017 – City Wide

Status: Construction

The Paving Contract includes construction of paths at Waldorf Park, Allied Park, and Garner Park as well as basketball courts at Allied, Waldorf, Arbor Hills, Lerdahl, and Westchester Gardens Park. The work will be completed by October 31st.

Gates of Heaven Improvements – Central

Status: Planning

Gates of Heaven flooring replacement is scheduled for 2018 in conjunction with exterior improvements being completed by Engineering staff. Staff will work with the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) to determine if a more durable variety of flooring will be allowed since Gates of Heaven is on the National Register.

Olbrich Park – Walter Street Restroom Building and Site Work Improvements – East Status: Planning

A public input meeting was held on October 12th to discuss the replacement of the restroom building and planned sitework improvements to the park. The basketball court near the existing shelter will also be relocated. Engineering Facilities anticipates that the contract to construct the building will be issued in early 2018, with construction anticipated to begin in June 2018. Sitework improvements (including the parking lot) will occur in 2019.

Eken Park Place making Improvements – East

Status: Design

Staff re-issued a Request for Quotes (RFQ) for the installation of a seating area and historical plaque at Eken Park but did not receive any bids. As a result, the work will need to be re-bid in late winter 2017 and work delayed until spring 2018.

Yahara Place Park and BB Clarke Park Shoreline Improvements – Near East Status: Complete

Construction of the steel abutment walls at Yahara Place Park with two stepped stone revetments for canoe/kayak access is complete. Maintenance of the existing stepped stone access at BB Clarke Park is also complete.

Wingra Park – Near West

Status: Planning

Staff is working with Engineering to address shoreline improvements to Wingra Park. Staff met with park stakeholders in April and had a second stakeholder meeting in August. Staff held a public informational meeting on this project on September 7, 2017. Work is tentatively scheduled for 2018, pending permit approvals.

Patriot Park – North

Status: Planning

Staff is near completion of the Patriot Park Master Plan design process. A public meeting was held in July to discuss this project with the neighborhood. A second public meeting was held on October 24th, where the neighborhood selected a final master plan which will be presented to the Board of Park Commissioners.

Thousand Oaks Park – Far West Status: Planning

Staff is near completion of the master plan development of Thousand Oaks Park. A public meeting was held in August to discuss this project with the neighborhood. A second public meeting was held on October 3rd where the neighborhood selected a final master plan which will be presented to the Board of Park Commissioners.

Ocean Road Park Playground Replacement – South

Staff held a public input meeting on October 30th to discuss the Ocean Road playground replacement. This project will be constructed in 2018. A second public input meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2017.

Dudgeon School Park Playground Replacement – West

Staff held a playground workshop on October 26th to discuss the Dudgeon School Park playground replacement. A second public input meeting is scheduled for December 12th. This project will be combined into a contract with two other playground sites and is anticipated to be bid for construction in 2018.

Indian Hills Park Playground Replacement – West

Staff held a playground workshop on October 26th to discuss the Indian Hills Park playground replacement. A second public input meeting is scheduled in late November or early December. This project will be combined into a contract with two other playground sites and is anticipated to be bid for construction in 2018.

Odana Hills Park Playground Replacement – West

Staff held a playground workshop on October 26th to discuss the Odana Hills Park playground replacement. A second public input meeting is scheduled for December 7th. This project will be combined into a contract with two other playground sites and is anticipated to be bid for construction in 2018.

Acewood Park Playground Replacement – East

Staff will hold a playground workshop on November 7th to discuss the Acewood Park playground replacement. A second public input meeting is scheduled for December 6th. This project will be combined into a contract with other playgrounds and bid out for construction in 2018.

Elmside Circle Park Playground Replacement – Near East

Staff will hold a playground workshop on November 7th to discuss the Elmside Park playground replacement. A second public input meeting is scheduled for December 11th. This project will be combined into a contract with other playgrounds and bid out for construction in 2018.

Washington Manor Park Playground Replacement – East

Staff will hold a public input meeting on November 20th to discuss the Washington Manor playground replacement. A second public input meeting will be scheduled for December, 2017. This project will be combined into a contract with other playgrounds and bid out for construction in 2018

Reger Park Playground Replacement – Near East

Staff will hold a public input meeting in November, 2017 to discuss the Reger Park playground replacement. A second public input meeting will be scheduled for December, 2017. This project will be combined into a contract with other playgrounds and bid out for construction in 2018

Mayfair Park Playground Replacement – Near East

Staff will hold a playground workshop on November 7th to discuss the Mayfair Park playground replacement. A second public input meeting is scheduled for December 11th. This project will be combined into a contract with other playgrounds and bid out for construction in 2018.

Olin Park Boat Launch Reconstruction – Isthmus/Central

Staff will hold a Public Informational meeting on Nov 1st to discuss the replacement of the concrete boat launch ramps at Olin Park. The proposed project would remove and replace the cracked and deteriorating existing concrete ramps in the same location and would include some small improvements to ramp slope and lake bed stabilization. The project would begin at ice out in the spring and be complete by early May 2018.

North Star Park Expansion – Far East

Staff will hold a public meeting on December 4th to discuss park improvements to the expanded, unimproved section of North Star Park.

Camar Park Master Plan – Far East

Staff will hold a concurrent meeting on December 4th in conjunction with the North Star Park Expansion meeting to discuss the master plan for Camar Park. The parks are located approximately ½ mile from each other and the discussion will focus on how to maximize amenities between the two locations by way of economizing resources.

Other Projects

- Staff is completing the nation-wide park system survey for the Trust for Public Lands.
- Staff is coordinating with volunteers at Glenwood Park for implementation of volunteer-led projects.
- Staff is working with the Parks Long Range Planning Subcommittee on drafting policies related Ice Rinks and Ice Rink volunteer groups.
- Staff will be working with Engineering on the Warner Park Lagoon Planning Grant. The first public input meeting was held in late winter of 2016. Montgomery Associates Resource Solutions LLC has been selected as the consultant for this project.
- Staff is working with a group of area residents interested in determining the feasibility of rehabilitating the Annie Stewart Memorial fountain at Vilas Park. InSite Consulting Architects has prepared a Preliminary Assessment that will provide guidance on the fountain restoration.
- Staff is working with the University Hill Neighborhood Association to install table tennis and bench improvements as part of a grant obtained by City Planning for neighborhood improvements.
- Staff is working in conjunction with Engineering, Planning and Traffic Engineering on the Blair Street/John Nolen Drive corridor plan, which also includes Law Park in the study area.
- Staff is working with the Madison Food Policy group on a report to identify potential community garden locations in the University Hills Neighborhood.
- Staff is working with the City Attorney's office on updating the Madison General Ordinances to allow for Temporary Land Use permits and Art Installation permits for private access and work in parks.
- Staff is working with Oblrich Botanical Society and Engineering for the proposed Olbrich Garden expansion.
- Staff is working with Engineering on the proposed Atwood Avenue improvements, which include improvements in Olbrich Park.
- Staff are working with City Planning to identify projects at the respective parks that can be constructed with funding provided by Planning through Community Block Development Grants (CDBG)
- Staff is reviewing potential options for new dog parks in accordance with the recently adopted dog park policy.
- Staff is coordinating prescribed burns for recent restoration projects at Tenney Park and Warner Park.
- Staff is coordinating a possible pilot for fat biking during winter and is working with volunteer groups to determine feasibility.

Projects Completed in 2017

- Cherokee Marsh North Unit Parking Lot
- Warner Park Breakwater and Dredging and Boat Launch Repair
- 2017 Parks Division Sun Shelters Installation (Allied, Norman Clayton and Sauk Creek Parks)
- 2017 Brittingham Park Accessible Playground
- 2017 Tennis and Basketball Court Improvements
- Reynolds Park Tennis
- Marshall park restroom construction in conjunction with Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District.
- Lucy Lincoln Hiestand Park seating area with Planning Grant award
- Brittingham Park Community Garden Playground
- Sugar Maple Park Development
- Baxter Park Playground
- Sunset Park Playground
- Westmorland Park Playground
- Allied Park Development (shelter, playground and basketball)
- Bordner Park Playground
- Esther Beach Shelter and site improvements
- Central Park Land Acquisition
- North Shore Drive Sidewalk Extension at the Railroad Crossing